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Dawaiian Gazette

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1888.

10-PAGE EDITION.

Letters From the Old Country! By E. L. D.

The British Museum-No. 15.

The British Museum as such, was formed in 1753, by an act of Parliament authorizing the purchase of the valuable library and collection of Sir Hans Sloane, then deceased, Montague House was utilized for the reception of this nucleus, and served the purpose over half a century, until the valuable additions presented by Georges III. and IV., of extensive libraries, Egyptian antiquities and Elgin marbles, necessitated the erection of the present immense structure. To those who visit the museum for other than a rapid walk through its many rooms, and the ability to say "they have been to the museum," we can promise them food for months, aye for years. The libraries contain over 1,300,000 volumes, and are remarkable for the beauty and rarity of many of the works contained therein. Here may be found a psalter printed on parchment, the first printed book bearing a date. The first printed bible, also the first bible having a date. There are historical, classical and poetical works in all the languages of the continent, dating from their first production. Earlier even than these, are the "block books," printed from carved blocks of wood, and antedating these again, the manuscripts of the 10th century. Within a half N. CASTLE. J. E. ATHERTON. G. P. CASTLE century after the introduction of printing, we find specimens of fine and sumptuous type. Wood cuts and engravings appear in books bearing the date of 1477. Some of the books contain the autographs of their early owners. Four large cases are filled with books remarkable for their beautiful and elaborate

with autographs and documents of kindred nature, and of great value. graphs of English and foreign sovereigns, another with those of celebrated men from every calling in life; still another has among its treasures the manuscript of "Gray's Elegy," also the last letter written by Dickens. One of the eldest Greek manuscripts of the bible, written in the 5th century, is in still another case together with manuscripts of all the earliest oriental countries, and which are considered of enormous value. We find royal documents, charters and grants, as far back as the 9th century, including an autotype copy of the Magna Charta, also some of the original musical manuscript of Handel's works. Two large cases are devoted to impressions of the Great Seals of British sovereigns, and of baronial and ecclesiastical seals as

Passing into the sculpture gallery, the first room is devoted entirely to the Roman antiquities found in England. Here are fragments of beautiful mosaic pavements, rough sarcophagi, and busts and statuary, large and small, numbering nearly a hundred. The inscriptions on some indicate that they were erected before the Christian Era. Deeply buried for centuries lay these treasures, proofs of luxury and appreciation of art in those early days, and the march of civilization, intened by the clash of arms, stained by blood spilt with lavish hands, and burdened with dreary mistakes, went to and fro in the land, and saw cities and governments rise from the ruins and ashes of their predecessors. Now, brought to light, many of these relies are found perfect in

every particular, while others are defaced and broken. It is searcely possible in London to-day, to prepare for the deep foundation of any large new building, without unearthing some relic of the Roman city, which stood upon this site at the beginning of the Christian Era. All, to whom the study of sculpture is dear, would find subjects to their hearts content, in the series of rooms devoted to GAINSBOROUGH, a dark bay Horse with this department of the museum. black points. Imported from Sydney, N. S. W., Greek and Roman productions of this department of the museum. every age meet you at every step. Fragments were to us the most interesting. Thus the portions of Biair Athol, GAINSBOROUGH'S grandsire, sold for 12,000 gs. in England, in 1873, while his granddam Habens was the winner of the 1,000 gs. at Ephesus, the "Elgin marbles," the "Temple of Diana," excavated which are the remains of the sculptures that once adorned the Parthenon at Athens, with all the tales they told were thrilling. When we reached the Assyrian, Ninroud, and Egyptian galleries, we felt we had woman suffrage.

indeed got into the "dead past,"

The results of the wonderful excavations by Mr. Layard in 1850, were many of them before our eyes. Sculptures and bas reliefs, to say nothing of hieroglyphics that adorned palaces and temples 800 years B. C., we were free to examine. Colossal lions with human Till you have measured how long heads and shoulders, stood 12 feet high, the details of man and beast each perfectly wrought. The Assyrians faces are handsomer than the Egyptian, the smiling expression and curly beard being repeated with almost the faithfulness of modern

photography. The records of the great people, whose lives were lived, history completed and existence forgotten, and Just death, kind umpire of men's miseries.

-Henry V., 4, 5. their very geographical situation even blotted out for many centuries, are nevertheless ours to enjoy. Much is said about the lost arts, also the superior attainments of the present age, and while we admit the truth of many of these assertions, we would like to see any form of printed page or pictorial impression of to-day, which will endure the ravages of time and the trials of oblivion as perfectly as have the pages of history from these longtime buried cities. With patient hands, the great deeds of the kings, whether political or secular, were graven on tablets that glorified their palaces, and immortalized their temples. Life with them was not unlike that of to-day. The recreation of hunting figured largely in their amusements, but the game pursued

were lions. The building of palaces, battles and conquests, are chiseled over many rods of stone facing, and abundant hierogliphics tell the tale to those who can read. A large collection of tablets, dwindling in size to only an inch in breadth, record events in geography, history, genealogy, astrology, and astronomy. Omens, incantations, hymns and prayers, grants of land, sale of slaves, legal records, and the loan of silver at 15 per cent. in the fourth year of King Nebuchadnezzar, are among the many leadets from this encient

covered in Moab in 1868, contains One case alone is filled with auto- the account of wars with the Kings of Israel. Shortly after its discovery it was broken in pieces by the Arabs. The fragments were recovered and taken to the Louvre, where a cast was taken for this museum. In the Egyptian room we find the "Rosetta" Stone-a tablet of black basalt with a triple inscription. The last, being in Greek, led to the deciphering of the old hieroglyphic language of Egypt, the value of which discovery Rameses, 2d. One large room is devoted entirely to mummies, some of which have been removed from are always two, one within another), and their marvelous wrappings, which are glazed and painted, rendering them impervious to the air, are thus disclosed to view. A network of blue beads was spread over many of them. The coffins were, many of them, decorated elaborately and fitted with great nicety.

One of the seven wonders of the world in ancient history was a memorial monument over the tomb of from time to time would be always Mausolus, King of Caria, erected by gratefully remembered. his wife. Our word mausoleum has this derivation. The tomb was surrounded by thirty-six columns, and surmounted by a pyramid that was also crowned by a colossal statue of the dead Mausolus. In all, it was 140 feet high. A chariot drawn by this wonderful structure. In 1857 valuable relics of this tomb were rescued from oblivion, and here in from their-number and size, of the imposing monument in its original grandeur and perfection. A chariot wheel has been restored from the fragments gathered; the fore and raised on pedestals, the bit and bridle still being upon the head. The statue of Mausolus has been restored from seventy-seven pieces, and is still imperfect; fragments of royal lions, and a part of the frieze also-all most beautifully carved, and of the finest marble.

A collection of coins would delight all specially interested in such treasures. Not only all the coins of Engthe world from the time B. C., when barter was superceded by their introduction.

(To be continued.)

Shakspeare on Baseball. which for the benefit of the present To what base uses we may return, Horatio.

-Hamlet, T, 5. I will run as far as God has any ground.
—Merchant of Venice, 2, 2,

Thus do the hopes we have in him touch ground,
And dash themselves to pieces.

—Henry IV., 4, 1. Like to a bowl upon a like throw, I have tumbled pest the throw, —Coriolanus, 2, 2,

A fool you were upon the ground.

-Cymbeline, 1, 2.

You come not home because you have no stomach. —Comedy of Errors, I, 2. If our betters play at that game, We must not dare to imitate them.

— Timon of Athens, 1, 2.

The greater throw May turn by fortune from the weaker hand.

—Merchant of Venice, 2, 1. You can fool no more money out of me at this throw. -Twelfth Night, 5, 1.

DEPARTURE OF THE KING.

Fine Display of Naval Honors in Honolulu Harbor-

His Majesty's embarkation for Hawaii by Her Britannic Majesty'ship Caroline on Thursday forenoon was signalized by one of the finest naval displays probably ever witnessed in Honolulu harber. Throngs of people viewed the grand scene from the ship-

ping and wharves. The Caroline weighed anchor at 10 o'clock. Premptly at half-past 10 the King, accompanied by Sir William Wiseman, Bart., commander of the Caroline; Hon. C. P. Iaukea, His Ma-jesty's Chamberlain, and an officer at-tending Sir William, left in one of the King's boats from his own boathouse and were rowed swiftly toward the

vessel.

Now the order was given almost simultaneously for manning the yards of the six national vessels in port-the British Caroline and Cormorant, the American Vandalia (Bear Admiral Kimberly's flagship) and Adams, the Russian Razboynik, and the Japanese Tsukuba. In a twinkling the riggings of these ships were alive with the up-ward bounding forms of hundreds of agile sailors. Then pictured against the sky stood the erect figures along the yard arms-that striking sight even on a single naval craft, but much more so in such a large and regularly arranged flotilla as this.

As the King ascending the com-panion ladder reached the deck, up flew the royal standard to the mark-mast, the initial gun of a royal salute history. A cylinder a foot long and thundering from the Caroline, follow-The manuscript room contains six sided, contained the account of ed in an instant by a reverberating over a dozen glass cases, each filled the taking of Jerusalem by Sanacarib. cherus from the other ships (except The Moabite Stone, which was dis-

Kakaako. The salute ended, the Caroline, swinging gracefully round, headed out the passage and was away for British Columbia, by way of Kailua, Hawaii, the King's country seat, where His Majesty will disembark.

The Blue Ribbon

The Blue Ribbon entertainment of Saturday evening was a very interest-ing one. Excellent readings were given by the President, Rev. H. H. Gowen, and Miss Prescott. Songs and plano is not easy to estimate. The Egyptian collection contains many massive sarcophagi, and colossal statues of Rameses, 2d. One large room is present conditions in Hamakua, or before and since the inauguration of temperance reform in that district. their elaborate coffins (of which there | On the 16th of June last year a temperance band was organized by Miss Mary Green. Since that time the cause had been taken up and forwarded by Mr. Rufus Lyman, Mr. J. Horner, Mr. Wm. Horner, Mr. Gribble, the speaker, several native Hawaiians, Chief Justice Judd, Mr. J. K. Kauna-

mano, and others. The President conveyed a vote of thanks to the friends who had taken part in the entertainment. Allusion was made to the contemplated departure of Miss M. Hopper, whose kind services at the meetings of the Society

The Debating Society.

The Literary and Debating Club on Thursday evening had a decidedly in-teresting meeting. The subject: "Resolved that woman suffrage is desirable," was discussed in a vigozous and huge horses, lions life-size, and effective manner, several strong argumany pieces of statuary ornamented ments being adduced both on the affirmative and negative. Two new members were elected. The President was, by resolution, empowered to appoint a special committee, to be Chnirthe Museum we can form some idea, man thereof himself, to consider the advisability of getting up a public entertainment. The seat of the first Vice-President was, in accordance with the by-laws, declared vacant, on account of successive absences of the gentleman first elected to that position, hind parts of a colossal horse are upon which Mr. E. G. Schumann was unanimously elected first Vice-Presi-

Opium in Galore-

Friday morning Mr. Geo. Markham, Port Surveyor, seized on board the Australia a man with a tin of opium strapped inside each of his trouser During the afternoon Mr. Markham and Customs Officer Gilfillan made a thorough search of the foreeastle bunks. They pulled off some of land from her earliest history to the the finding of three separate lots of present time, but all those in use in opium, aggregating about fifty tins, which brought the amount found on this steamer up to over 200 tins. It seems that the news gone forward to San Franciscoof the lapse of license ex-cited this spurt of speculation in the prohibited drug. Up till Friday eve-ning there had been none of the article Boston has defeated municipal discovered amongst regular merchan-